GREENBELT
News Review
An Independent Newspaper

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Inside Stories

Award winner, p. 4

ERHS soccer, p.15

PHOTO BY NICK HALL NH

Candidates for Greenbelt's City Council at the forum co-hosted by the Greenbelt News Review and GATe: from left, Frankie Fritz, Bill Orleans, Kristen Weaver, Silke Pope, Emmett Jordan, Rodney Roberts, Kevin "Coach K" Lockhart, Danielle McKinney, Jenni Pompi and Amy Knesel

Election 2025

Answers to Question 2

The News Review, as it does for every city council election, asked the candidates to respond in writing to questions. Answers are limited to 150 words. If an answer exceeds the limit, the answer is cut off at that point. Responses are published in various orders to avoid favoring candidates. Here are the answers we received to our second question.

Question 2: Given current economic challenges facing city residents and facing the city, how would you change what the city spends its resources on?

Bill Orleans

As much as the next guy, I like a pretty landscape. (Just how much of public works' budget is directed to pruning the flowering shrubbery outside the Municipal Building and elsewhere?) Public safety is certainly a concern. No one should fear mugging by a bully wanting their coat, cash or car. Likewise, no one should fear mugging by bullies wanting their home. We should invest less in the latest capital-intensive policing technologies, frequently surveillance technologies, and more in car, bike and foot patrol, and more in processes availing residents' recourse when their right to continue living in their apartment, condo, house is challenged by managements or boards-of-directors. Council had an opportunity to utilize Greenbelt's ARPA funding to establish a fund, supplemented in successive

See **ANSWERS,** page 11

Election 2025

Candidates for City Council Answer Questions at Forum

by Pat Scully

All 10 candidates for the seven seats on the Greenbelt City Council appeared at a forum on the evening of Thursday, October 9, to make their views known on a variety of issues facing the city. Hosted by the News Review and Greenbelt Access Television (GATe), and moderated by Dave Zahren, the forum attracted a crowd of about 60 observers to the Firehouse and was livestreamed via Zoom, as well as recorded by GATe.

The candidates faced three rounds of questions from a list of six prepared by the News Review staff, who had solicited community suggestions. In the first two rounds, groups of three or four candidates were asked questions. In the third round, all candidates, in random order, answered a question of their choice that they had not already been asked. Those third-round answers are incorporated into the discussion of each question below.

Question One: Most Important Accomplishment

Frankie Fritz, Amy Knesel and Emmett Jordan were asked what was their most important accomplishment or that of council

See **FORUM,** page 6

BARC Presence a Key Factor In Site Selection for Greenbelt

by Deanna Dawson

PHOTO COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Goats in a field on the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center in 1919. The milk from these goats was sent to Children's Hospital in Washington, D.C. Land purchased in 1935 for the Greenbelt Project allowed BARC to expand.

Greenbelt and the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) are inextricably linked. It's no coincidence that they are neighbors. The presence of BARC was a key factor in the selection in 1935 of a site for the new town. The prospect was first raised on a visit to BARC in February 1935 by Rexford Tugwell, then Undersecretary of Agriculture (and soon to become chief of the Resettlement Administration), John Lansill, whom Tugwell appointed to direct the Division of Suburban Resettlement which oversaw the national Greenbelt Town Program, and Wallace Richards, who became the coordinator of the Greenbelt project (originally known as the Berwyn project or Maryland Special Project No. 1). According to a February 1938 U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) report – Summary Description of the Greenbelt Project at Greenbelt, Prince George's County, Maryland, USDA Farm Security Administration, Division of Suburban Resettlement (held in the Greenbelt collection

See **BARC,** page 8

Council Hears Wayfinding Plan; Some Signs May Cost up to $30K

by Ashna Balroop

On September 17, Greenbelt City Council held a worksession to discuss a draft of the city's new wayfinding plan that aims to use directional, place-identifying and welcoming signs to create a cohesive city identity.

NEIGHBORHOOD DESIGN CTR

A rendering of Gateway welcome signage

The city's Assistant Director of Planning, Jaime Fearer, shared a presentation of the final draft plan, which she said staff had been actively working on for 18 months. A community survey was carried out from December 2023 to January 2024, which yielded 179 responses, according to Fearer. A draft outline was previously presented to council (see page 6 of the January 2, 2025, issue). Fearer described the current presentation as the final draft report, and she expected to take any final comments back to groups and consultants before bringing the plan back to council for approval. The strategic wayfinding plan is authored by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Prince George's County Planning Department. The City of Greenbelt applied to the county planning department's Planning Assistance to Municipalities and Communities Program in December 2021 to fund a strategic wayfinding plan for the

See **SIGNS,** page 9

What Goes On

Monday, October 20
7:30 p.m., City Council Worksession: Cemetery Preservation Master Plan, Municipal Building
Wednesday, October 22
7:30 p.m., Council Worksession: City Manager's Quarterly Update, Recreation Department, Municipal Building

See the city ad on page 5 or the meetings calendar at greenbeltmd.gov for more information.

PHOTO BY NICK HALL NH

There were decorations, games, costumes and pumpkin carving at the Fall Fest at Schrom Hills Park on Saturday, October 11. For more, see page 16.

Election 2025

Questions Posed to Candidates

Question 3: What particular expertise do you bring to council and in what specific ways would you use it to advance your priorities? Please give concrete examples.

Candidates are asked to submit their answers, limited to 150 words, to the News Review by 6 p.m. on Monday, October 20, by email to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

Letters to the Editor

GHI Recent Evictions

As a GHI member for the last 19 years, I never saw a member of the cooperative being evicted. Now, in a two-month time, I know of two recent evictions near me. Both members who were evicted were devastated. The second member evicted was my neighbor, a senior citizen who has lived in her unit for over 30 years.

This member is in denial, and her story is heartbreaking. Unfortunately, due to her eviction and life circumstances, we found her last weekend sitting on her porch and sleeping in the yard with the clothes on her back, a purse and no cell phone. Her unit is for sale and the estate is being handled by GHI and distant family members. Because the GHI office is closed on weekends, my neighbors and I did all that we could for her to keep her fed, warm and safe.

The Greenbelt City Police exhausted their resources and tried to get her off the street, but to no avail. I'm sharing this sad reality that members of the GHI cooperative are being evicted during a government shutdown, furloughs and hard times. How evictions are decided and handled is discussed in GHI Board of Directors closed meetings. Members are unaware until a neighbor's life and belongings are thrown out in the street, or in my neighbor's case, her unit placed on the market. I understand why these types of cases are handled in closed meetings, but I question if it's necessary to throw out a member.

I urge my fellow neighbors and the GHI membership to attend the GHI Board open meetings. There is no oversight of GHI operations except an annual audit. I ask the Greenbelt City Council to establish and review

See **LETTERS**, page 12

On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

Orwell 2+2=5

From Academy Award-nominated and BAFTA-winning director, Raoul Peck (I Am Not Your Negro), this definitive feature-length documentary on visionary author George Orwell was made with the exclusive cooperation of the Orwell Estate. "Who controls the past controls the future: who controls the present controls the past," wrote Orwell in his novel, 1984. Today, the "newspeak" of authoritarian rule is alive and well and in unexpected places, from the rise of AI chatbots to the Russian propaganda machine, from the marketing webs of commercial metaverses to the political banning of books in the southern United States. Peck's film uses George Orwell's life, work and legacy as a maverick iconoclastic writer to jam the signals of the algorithms gone rogue which, in the name of personal freedom, threaten to close our minds to a greater possibility.

One Battle After Another

Bob is a washed-up revolutionary who lives in a state of stoned paranoia, surviving off-grid with his spirited and self-reliant daughter, Willa. When his evil nemesis resurfaces and Willa goes missing, the former radical scrambles to find her as both father and daughter battle the consequences of their pasts. Said critic David Klion of the New Republic, "Somehow, a slacker epic decades in the making turns out to be exactly the movie for right now."

The First Wives Club

Despondent over the marriage of her ex-husband to a younger woman, a middle-aged divorcée plunges to her death from her penthouse. At the woman's funeral, her former college friends (Bette Midler, Goldie Hawn, Diane Keaton) reunite for the first time in nearly 30 years. When the three discover the reason for their friend's suicide, they realize that all of their ex-husbands have taken them for granted – and deciding it's time for revenge, they make a pact to get back at their exes.

Annie Hall

Comedian Alvy Singer (Woody Allen) examines the rise and fall of his relationship with struggling nightclub singer Annie Hall (Diane Keaton). Speaking directly to the audience in front of a bare background, Singer reflects briefly on his childhood and his early adult years before settling in to tell the story of how he and Annie met, fell in love and struggled with the obstacles of modern romance, mixing surreal fantasy sequences with small moments of emotional drama.

Something's Gotta Give

When aging womanizer Harry Sanborn (Jack Nicholson) and his young girlfriend, Marin (Amanda Peet), arrive at her family's beach house in the Hamptons, they find that her mother, dramatist Erica Barry (Diane Keaton), also plans to stay for the weekend. Erica is scandalized by the relationship and Harry's sexist ways. But when Harry has a heart attack, and a doctor (Keanu Reeves) prescribes bed rest at the Barry home, Harry finds himself falling for Erica – who, for once, may be out of his league.

Correction

In the October 9 issue, the photos of ERHS soccer players on page 19 were misnamed. Number 7, in the photo by herself, is senior Leilah Eggleston. Number 10, racing down the field ahead of a pack, is junior Ariana Cruz, flanked by her teammate senior Karina Reyes Carranza, number 13.

greenbelt CINEMA
Greenbelt Cinema
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbeltcinema.org
Members always $7.00!
Member kids are always FREE!
After 5 PM: adults $10, kids $7, senior/student/military $9
Before 5 PM: general admission $8, kids $6
OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

SHOWTIMES:
OCTOBER 17th - 23rd

Orwell 2+2=5
(R) (CC) (DVS) (2025) (170 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 5:00 PM, 7:45 PM
Wed. 7:45 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Sat. 5:15 PM, 8:00 PM
Sun. 5:15 PM, 8:15 PM
Mon. 2:00 PM, 5:00 PM
Tues 7:45 PM
Thurs. 7:45 PM

One Battle After Another (R)
(CC) (DVS) (2025) (170 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sat. 7:15 PM
Sun. 8:00 PM
Mon. 1:45 PM (OC)
Tues. 4:40 PM
Thurs. 4:40 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 4:40 PM
Wed. 4:40 PM

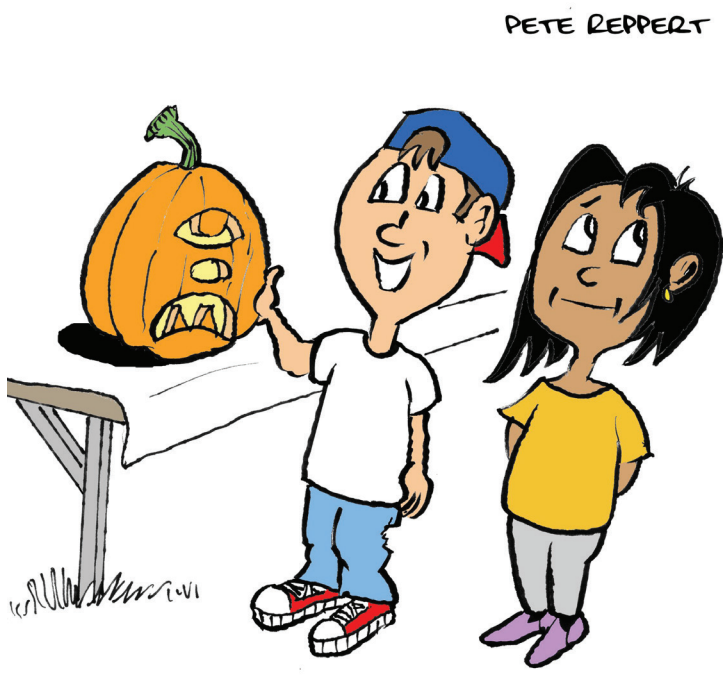
The First Wives Club
(PG) (1996) (105 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Mon. 5:15 PM
Thurs. 8:00 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 8:00 PM

Annie Hall
(PG) (1977) (93 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sat. 5:00 PM
Tue. 8:00 PM

Something's Gotta Give
(PG-13) (2003) (133 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sun. 5:00 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Wed. 8:00 PM

Utopia Film Festival
Tickets & info at
utopiafilmfestival.org
Screen 1 & Screen 2 -
Sat. 10:00 AM - 4:15 PM
Sun. 10:00 AM - 4:15 PM

Storytime on Screen - Free!
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Mon. 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM



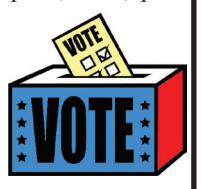
Letters Policy During City Elections

The News Review reserves the right not to publish any letter submitted. Letters are considered accepted when published.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider withholding the name upon request.

All letters are subject to editing for reasons of space, libel, privacy, taste, copyright and clarity.

In an election year, the News Review will not print a letter raising a new issue the week prior to election day, when no other party would have a chance to respond.



Greenbelt News Review

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PUBLICATION DEADLINES:
- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All letters to the editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 5 p.m. Co-op dropbox: Classified ads with payment only.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement.

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: $55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Tuesday, 2 - 4 p.m.
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the Municipal Building.

Community Events

At the Library

Greenbelt Library's regular hours are Mondays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sundays 1 to 5 p.m.

Storytimes

Friday, October 17, 11:15 a.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at pgcmls.info/event/14464700.

Wednesday, October 22, 12:15 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at pgcmls.info/event/14464506.

Thursday, October 23, 10:15 a.m., ages newborn to 2. Register at pgcmls.info/event/14464241.

Storytime on Screen

Monday, October 20, 10:30 a.m., ages 1 to 5, at the Greenbelt Cinema. This is a free program of stories, songs, and a short film. Please, no unaccompanied children or adults. Register at pgcmls.info/event/14452342.

STEM Fun

Tuesday, October 21, 4:30 p.m., ages 5 to 12. Dive into the world of science, technology, engineering and math with fun, hands-on experiments and activities. Explore constructing Rigamajig pieces through interactive challenges that spark curiosity and creativity. Register at pgcmls.info/event/14448225.

Teen Life Lab

Tuesday, October 21, 6 p.m., ages 13 to 18. Everyone's got different goals, but smart money choices can help them get where they want to go. In this session, teens will explore credit, saving and simple ways to grow their money over time. Presented by the University of Maryland Extension Financial Wellness Team. Register at pgcmls.info/event/14601467.

Fall Mosaic Workshops

Join the crew from Empact Art and the Greenbelt Recreation Arts Program for a free workshop on Tuesday, October 28 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Community Center. Contribute to a mosaic that will adorn the "skin" of the new sculpture Joy being constructed for the Braden Athletic Complex. Open to ages 16 and up. Advance sign-up recommended at sugeni.us/eWCH. Walk-ups are also welcome as space and supplies permit. This activity does not involve wet media and is not expected to be messy. For more information about Greenbelt Arts programs, visit greenbeltmd.gov/arts. Programs are supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council.

More Community Events are located throughout the paper.

A Night of Magic And Mystery at GAC

It is said that a key ingredient in magic is distraction. Want some distraction from recent current events? On Friday, October 24 at 8 p.m., Greenbelt Arts Center is providing an opportunity to do just that in A Night of Magic and Mystery, performed by Christopher DePamphilis, and he is throwing in the mystery at no extra charge.

His unique blend of masterful sleight-of-hand and engaging stage presence will leave you questioning what's possible. The magic and mystery will be found with a magician who doesn't just perform effects but creates an unforgettable experience that will challenge your perception of reality.

For an evening of magic unlike any other get some distraction with DePamphilis in his all-ages and captivating one-man, one-night show that includes his Compendium of Curiosities.

Tickets are required. For more information visit greenbeltartscenter.org.

CCI Health Services Offers Free Flu Shots

Join CCI Health Services, a community health center dedicated to improving health outcomes, for Boo to the Flu on Saturday, October 25 from 3 to 6 p.m. for a trunk-or-treat spooktacular event. Get a free flu vaccine inside the Ora Glen health center and visit the decorated trunks outside for sweet treats. Don't forget to come dressed in a favorite costume. The best costume will win a prize. This event is open to everyone. It is not necessary to be a CCI patient to attend or to receive a free flu shot.

CARES Needs Fund Donations

The Greenbelt Emergency Assistance Fund continues to be a safety net for Greenbelters in a financial crisis whatever the reason. Those who are able can help by donating to the fund.

Make checks out to Greenbelt CARES, write Emergency Assistance Fund in the memo space and mail to Greenbelt CARES, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 (or place in the secure drop box at that address). Or, go to GreenbeltMD.gov, click Pay Online at the top of the page and choose Charitable Donations. Complete the form, indicating the donation is for the Emergency Assistance Fund, and click submit; the payment page then will come up with a form to enter credit card or PayPal information.

Join No Kings Rally Saturday Afternoon

Join Greenbelt's No Kings Rally on Saturday, October 18 from 2 to 4 p.m. starting at the Municipal Building near Roosevelt Center. From there, a march to the Spellman Overpass will step off around 2:30.

Free event. For more information, email hesperus9@proton.me.

Greenbelt Chess Club

The Greenbelt Chess Club will meet on Tuesday, October 21 at the Youth Center from 6:30 to 8:45 p.m. The club welcomes people of all ages and skill levels. To be added to the mailing list, visit tinyurl.com/ycy2nz4m and complete the brief form. Email questions to greenbeltchessclub@gmail.com.

Golden Age Club

The Golden Age Club meets on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. in Room 201 of the Community Center.

The following is the schedule for the remainder of October.

October 22, Bingo

October 29, Speaker: Stephen Sciannella on Estate Planning. There will be light refreshments.

ERHS Holds Fall Concert

The school year is well underway at Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) and to welcome the fall season, the music department invites everyone to join them for a free fall concert, held in the school's auditorium on Thursday, October 23 at 7 p.m. The concert will feature music by the ERHS Band and Choir.

Keep up with ERHS music happenings on Instagram at erhs_bands & raiders_rhapsody.

GCC Hosts Fire Pit Gathering Oct. 17

Everyone is invited to the Greenbelt Community Church (GCC) fire pit on Friday, October 17 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. GCC is celebrating the kick-off of a new Youth Sunday School program. Bring a chair and enjoy a hot dog, s'mores and good company. The church is located at 1 Hillside Road.

This Saturday Is College Park Day

On Saturday, October 18 from noon to 6 p.m., the City of College Park will host its annual College Park Day at the College Park Aviation Museum and Airport, 1985 Corporal Frank Scott Drive. This community event showcases local organizations, city and county services, university programs and lots of activities for everyone.

Expected to attract more than 13,000 people, College Park Day features live music and performances, three stages of performances, races, pumpkin carving, games, 50-plus artists and community exhibitors, 17-plus food and drink vendors, free admission to the College Park Aviation Museum, helicopter and plane fly-ins and much more.

Free parking is available at several area parking lots. Bike racks will be available at the event site.

Favor's Table Offers Financial Class

A Wealth Creation, Protection and Wealth Transfer class will be offered October 18 from 3:30 to 4 p.m. at 6215 Greenbelt Road, Room 205 (tall building beside McDonald's). This class is for adults and those that have not attended the class before. Text 202-468-2049 to sign up by Friday, October 17. Confirm you will attend so we can make bags of food for you. We will be giving away food, clothes, bras and shoes at the end of class.

Reel and Meal

Join Reel and Meal at the New Deal Café on Monday, October 20 for documentaries from the Utopia Film Festival that inspire action and awareness. Featured films include Projecting Protest, Not a Token Bill and Citizen Ruth. The program begins at 7 p.m., with vegan dinner options available after 4 p.m.

Scam Protection Info Provided on Two Dates

The Public Safety Advisory Committee is offering two sessions on scam protection. They will host meetings on Tuesday, October 28 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom and Thursday, October 30 at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center, Room 114, with speakers from AARP Maryland and the Greenbelt Police Department to discuss how people can protect themselves against scams and what to do if they fall for the scams.

The City of Greenbelt will provide information on the Zoom link on the City of Greenbelt calendar on a later date. All residents are encouraged to attend.

Trunk or Treat With Greenbelt Police

Greenbelt Police Department (GPD) will hold their annual Trunk or Treat on Friday, October 24 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the rear of Beltway Plaza (behind Target/AMC).

Trunk or Treat is a fun community event where the trunks of police vehicles are decorated for Halloween to create a safe and festive environment for children and families to trick or treat for candy. This year, GPD is excited to partner with Franklin Park, Mission BBQ and the Fire Department for an even more entertaining evening.

This Week at the New Deal Café

Celebrating 30 Years in Greenbelt, 1995-2025!

BECOME A MEMBER!*

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113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD

Monday, 9am-9pm; Tuesday—Thursday, 9am - 10pm; Friday/Saturday, 9am – 12midnight; Sunday, 9am – 9pm

TH 10/16	FRI 10/17	SAT 10/18	SUN 10/19
FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm Classic Jam w/ The Low Rent Quartet 6:30 - 9:30pm Long running jam	8 Ball Deluxe 8 - 11pm The best in classic rock, Motown, soul/funk to get you moving and grooving	NO POETRY OPEN MIC UTOPIA FILM FESTIVAL 10a-5p; UtopiaFilmFestival.org Elikeh 8 - 11pm DC-based Afropop band exploring global themes	UTOPIA FILM FESTIVAL 10a-4p; UtopiaFilmFestival.org Grateful Sunday Featuring Colleen 'n Crew 6 - 8pm Grateful Dead covers

MON 10/20	TUES 10/21	WED 10/22	TH 10/23	New Deal Cafe
REEL AND MEAL 6:30 - 9p A monthly film series exploring vital social justice issues.	Open Mic w/ Joey Campfire 6 - 9:30pm Sign-ups at 6p Show us what ya got!	Kim's Grand Rounds 7 - 9pm Featured: Michelle Swan, Joey Campfire, Charlie Bryant & Kim Eaton	FRENCH CONVERSATION, CANCELLED TODAY ONLY CAFE CLOSED FOR PRIVATE EVENT 5PM	DON'T FORGET TO TIP OUR BANDS! IT'S THE ONLY WAY THEY GET 'PAID' FOR THEIR PERFORMANCES

Join NDC! Go to NewDeal Cafe(dot) com, click on "ABOUT", then "BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW."

FUNDING FOR THESE ADS PROVIDED BY A GENEROUS DONOR.

Obituaries

Russell Wilbur

PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Russell M. Wilbur

Russell M. Wilbur ("Rusty"), age 69, died at home on August 18, 2025 of complications related to hypertensive cardiovascular disease. He was a longtime resident of Greenbelt.

Rusty was born in Santa Clara, Calif., in 1956. During his childhood, his family lived in 13 different places, including Keflavik, Iceland, as his father served in the Navy. Rusty attended the University of Rochester and graduated magna cum laude from the University of Maryland with a bachelor's degree in history. He worked in banking, technical writing, customer service and volunteered as a GED tutor. Rusty was an avid bowler, loved sports and possessed an encyclopedic knowledge of baseball. Rusty strove to be of use to others. Many in his community benefited from his generosity and care.

Rusty was preceded in death by his mother and father, Althea and Harley Wilbur. He is survived by his daughter, Carly Elizabeth Wilbur of Denver, Colo.; sisters Kimberly Wilbur of Roseburg, Ore., and Gwenan Wilbur of Chicago, Ill.; nieces Miranda, Sasha and Emily Wood as well as many loving cousins and friends.

Donations in Rusty's honor may be made to:

NAMI Prince George's County: namipgc.org/get-involved/donate

The Human Trafficking Legal Center: secure.qgiv.com/for/thehumantraffickinglegalcenter

Obituaries

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present.

You write it or we will if you prefer. We try to include information about participation in various activities and organizations, where the person lived and something about the family. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.

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Visually impaired may listen for free
Call Metropolitan Washington Ear
301-681-6636
No special equipment needed

GCC Donation Drive October 25 and 26

The Greenbelt Community Church will collect clothing, household textiles, small household goods and books on Saturday, October 25 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Sunday, October 26 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Place soft goods in plastic bags and hard goods in boxes that one person can carry. Books must be boxed separately. Oversized items cannot be accepted.

Donations will be taken to Value Village, which pays the church. The church will use these funds to support the Greenbelt Emergency Fund.

Canned food will also be accepted to be added to the church's ongoing collection for the local food bank, Help By Phone.

The church is located at 1 Hillside Road. Use the driveway at the rear of the building to drop off donations. For questions, email the Greenbelt Community Church at office@greenbeltucc.org.

St. Hugh's Bazaar Coming in November

St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church will hold its annual Christmas Bazaar on November 1 and 2 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be vendors, jewelry, food and baked goods. And, of course, a big Christmas section as well as white elephant items. Come enjoy great buys at 135 Crescent Road. Enter the bazaar from the rear parking lot of the church.

ICE Protest

PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

Protesting the presence of ICE nearby and on the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, residents gather outside the Municipal Building before Tuesday's council meeting.

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
Open hearts, Open Minds, Open doors
Find us on facebook.com/mowattumc
301-474-5410
Pastor Evelyn Romero
Worship Service, Sundays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Season of Rest

St. John's Episcopal Church
11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20704
301-937-4292 www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org
Welcomes you each Sunday for Worship & Sunday School at 10:00 AM

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
We Are an Open and Affirming Church
GREENBELT COMMUNITY CHURCH
One Hillside Road
Join Us Sunday 10:15 AM for Worship
www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH
• Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am*, Sat 9am*
• Sunday Mass:
◦ Sat vigil 5pm*
◦ Sun 8am, 9:30am,11am
• Confessions Saturday 3pm - 4pm.
Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.
*Live streamed on Facebook and available on our YouTube page later.
CELEBRATE WITH US
135 Crescent Rd.
www.sthughofgrenoble.org

Our Neighbors

We are saddened by the death of cyclist Lisa Martin of Riverdale who was killed in a hit-and-run accident while riding her bike within the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center. She was the president of Route One Velo, a cycling club and racing team. Our condolences to her family and friends.

Our condolences also to the family and friends of Russell "Rusty" Wilbur, a longtime resident of Greenbelt and graduate of University of Maryland who died on August 18. He loved sports, especially baseball.

Congratulations to Kaylie Taylor, an Eleanor Roosevelt High School senior, who received both the top scholar award, given to the contestant with the highest GPA, and the community service award, for her essay about her community service work, at the Miss College Park Scholarship Pageant on September 28.

PHOTO COURTESY KAYLIE TAYLOR

Kaylie Taylor

Congratulations to the Eleanor Roosevelt girls soccer team on their Senior Night win.

Send details of your news to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

"...love is light, no matter in what abode it dwelleth;
and hate is darkness, no matter where it may make its nest."
– 'Abdu'l-Bahá
Greenbelt Bahá'í Community
www.greenbeltbahais.org

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GREENBELT
Mass Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
Community Center Room 114
15 Crescent Rd
cathcomgreenbelt.org
ALL ARE WELCOME!
A Roman Catholic Intentional Eucharistic Community
OR - Join us on ZOOM!
For ZOOM link:
CCG1985+owner@groups.io

The Bible Says...
The Ten Commandments
#7-You Shall Not Commit Adultery
Exodus 20:14
MCF COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday Worship Services
10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School
(66 Ridge Rd.)
MCFcc.org

Mishkan Torah Congregation
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield
An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.
Friday evening services at 8:00pm
Saturday morning services at 10:00am
Offering hybrid services, online and in-person activities
For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church
Postal address: P.O. Box 676, Laurel, MD 20725
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org
Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community
October 19, 2025, at 3 p.m.
Beware of Boxes
Leo Jones with Jacqui Walpole, Worship Associate
Human beings frequently make assumptions and judgments about others, categorizing them into groups. The consequences of these actions can be severe. Over millennia, these methods have been refined and continue to be widespread today. People of the Heart, who are compassionate, must actively resist the impulse to make quick assumptions and judgments that create division between "us" and "them." On Sunday, October 19th, we will explore the reasons behind why we put each other in boxes and discuss how we can change this behavior.
Streaming on PBUUC's Facebook page, on Zoom, and in person. Worship service held at University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD

City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

GREENBELT CITY CALENDAR

Be sure to check out the City calendar for all up to date events at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.

MEETINGS FOR OCTOBER 20-24

Monday, October 20 at 7:30pm, **WORK SESSION - CEMETERY PRESERVATION MASTER PLAN**

Tuesday, October 21 at 7 pm, **GREENBELT REPARATIONS COMMISSION,** *On the Agenda: Review AARN findings, Review/Summary of Piscataway Indian Nation PPT presentation, Review GRC findings, Plan for November 15 Town Hall*

Wednesday, October 22 at 7:30 pm, **WORK SESSION - CITY MANAGER'S QUARTERLY UPDATE - RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

Wednesday, October 22 Immediately Following the Work Session, **SPECIAL MEETING/CLOSED SESSION - PERSONNEL/LEGAL MATTERS**

Thursday, October 23 at 7 pm, **FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING,** *On the Agenda: Pumpkin Walk Follow-up, Discussion on Stewardship and Proposed BARC Closure, Possible Revisions to FPAB Webpage*

In advance, the hearing impaired are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call (301) 474-8000. For information on public participation for the meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

In accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1) and (8) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, a closed session of the Greenbelt City Council will be held on Wednesday, October 22, 2025, immediately following the Council Work Session – City Manager's Quarterly Update – Recreation Department, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building: 1) to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; 2) to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

The purpose of this meeting is:

1) to address personnel matters over which this public body has jurisdiction.

2) to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

**** The public may attend the Council Work Session prior to the closed session and observe the vote of the Council to move into the closed session on Wednesday, October 22, 2025.***

- Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE
Fall 2025-2026

Week	Location	Holiday
November 3-7	Lakewood Greensprings I & II	
November 10-14	Boxwood	**Veterans Day** November 11
November 17-21	Woodland Hills	
November 24-28	Lakeside	**Thanksgiving** November 27 & 28
December 1-5	Lakewood Greensprings I & II	
December 8-12	Boxwood	
December 15-19	Woodland Hills	
December 22-26	Lakeside	**Christmas** December 25
December 29 - January 2	Lakewood Greensprings I & II	**New Years Day** January 1

DIABETES EDUCATION CLASS & SCREENING

Class: November 7, 10am-11am - Screening: November 14, 10am-12pm
Greenbelt Community Center

Join Dr. Florence Awosika, DNP, APRN, CDCES and discover how to care for yourself in ways that lead to a healthier life. This diabetes wellness education class focuses on self-care, empowering you to make informed decisions and take charge of your well-being.

GREENBELT POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY MEETING

Thursday, October 16, 6:30-8pm. Community Center Room 109

The Greenbelt Police Department invites you to join a community meeting to discuss trends and prevention.

CURRENT GAIL PROGRAMS

CARES is happy to provide the following programs **FREE** of charge. For more information, email Brendy Maddox at bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov or (202) 670-6497.

- **OPEN COMPUTER LAB FOR ADULTS** 1st and 3rd Monday of each month. Weekly sign-up required.
- **DEMENTIA WEBINARS** 10/23, 11/6, 11/13 at 7 pm on Zoom.
- **NAVIGATING DEMENTIA CARE FOR CAREGIVERS** in partnership with the University of Maryland: November 3, 10, and 17 (in-person), November 5, 12, 19 (Virtual)
- **FREE MONTHLY DIAPER DISTRIBUTION** Greenbelt Residents Only. First time participants must provide proof of residency, state-issued ID, birth certificate (or copy) for each child.
- **AGING SOLO** Oct 22, 29 from 1-2:30pm on Zoom. Learn to set priorities, build your support network, and put your plans into action.

GREENBELT ELECTION INFORMATION

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION
DATES & DEADLINES: 2025 CITY COUNCIL ELECTION

☑ First day to receive papers and file nomination petition	8/18
☑ Last day to file nomination petition (by 5pm)	9/22
☑ Date of drawing for placement on ballot – 7pm	9/22
☑ First Interim Campaign Contributions & Expenditures Report (by 12pm)	9/26
☑ First day to send out mail-in ballots	10/3
☑ Last day to register to vote (must be received by 4:30pm Upper Marlboro)	10/6
Second Interim Campaign Contributions & Expenditures Report (by 12pm)	10/24
Early Voting begins .	11/1-11/2
Training session for Election Judges and Clerks	11/3
Election 7am-8pm	11/4
Mail-in ballots must be received by 6pm	11/4
Final Contributions & Expenditures Report (12pm)	11/7
Charter Meeting for swearing-in at 7:30pm	11/10

For additional information, contact Bonita Anderson, City Clerk, at (301) 474-8000 or e-mail banderson@greenbeltmd.gov.

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION
ANY REGISTERED GREENBELT RESIDENT MAY CHOOSE TO VOTE BY MAIL-IN

VOTING BY MAIL: Any qualified voter of the City of Greenbelt may choose to vote by MAIL-IN BALLOT.

ALL REGISTERED VOTERS WILL RECEIVE IN THE MAIL AN APPLICATION TO VOTE BY MAIL-IN BALLOT. IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO VOTE BY MAIL, YOU MAY DISREGARD THE APPLICATION. YOU MAY VOTE AT ANY POLLING LOCATION ON ELECTION DAY.

Military service members, their families, and other U.S. citizens abroad who are covered under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act may also use the Federal Post Card Application (http://www.fvap.gov) to request an absentee ballot for City election.

Applications to receive mail-in ballot must be received by noon on Monday, November 3, 2025. We encourage you to return your application (by mail or in-person) as soon as possible.

Return your executed mail-in ballot by

1) Sending it through the U.S. mail in time to arrive by November 3,

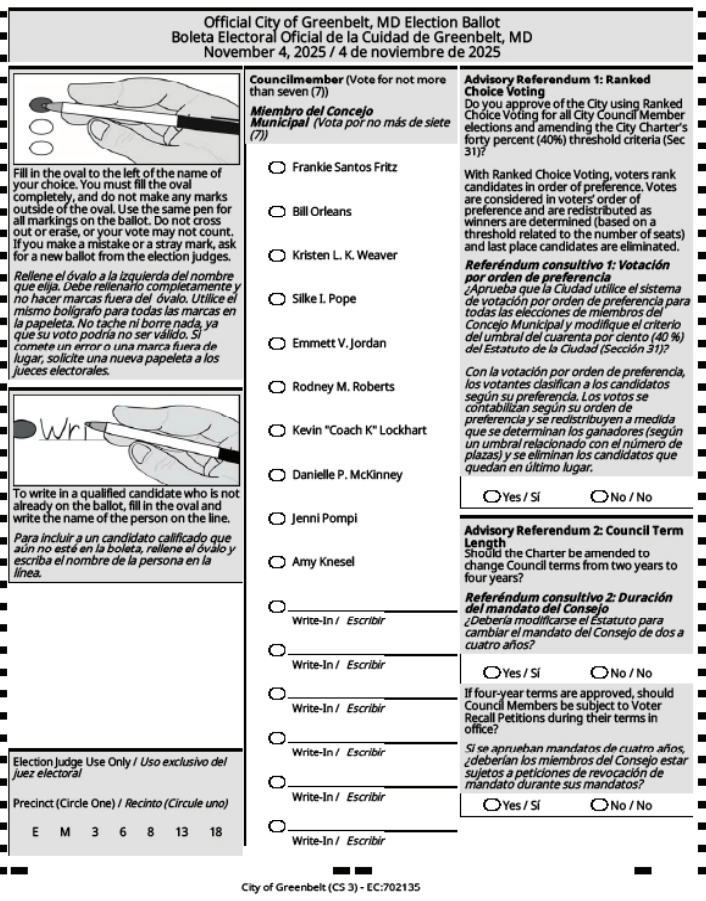
2) Hand-delivering it to the City Clerk's office, or

3) Place it into one of the three drop-box locations. (Police Station, Schrom Hills Park and Springhill Lake Recreation Center)

Questions? Call the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000, or send email to banderson@greenbeltmd.gov.

SAMPLE 2025 ELECTION BALLOT

To view the sample ballot online, visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/election.



Official City of Greenbelt, MD Election Ballot
Boleta Electoral Oficial de la Ciudad de Greenbelt, MD
November 4, 2025 / 4 de noviembre de 2025

Fill in the oval to the left of the name of your choice. You must fill the oval completely, and do not make any marks outside of the oval. Use the same pen for all markings on the ballot. Do not cross out or erase, or your vote may not count. If you make a mistake or a stray mark, ask for a new ballot from the election judges.

Rellene el óvalo a la izquierda del nombre que elija. Debe rellenarlo completamente y no hacer marcas fuera del óvalo. Utilice el mismo bolígrafo para todas las marcas en la papeleta. No tache ni borre nada, ya que su voto podría no ser válido. Si comete un error o una marca fuera de lugar, solicite una nueva papeleta a los jueces electorales.

To write in a qualified candidate who is not already on the ballot, fill in the oval and write the name of the person on the line.

Para incluir a un candidato calificado que aún no esté en la boleta, rellene el óvalo y escriba el nombre de la persona en la línea.

Election Judge Use Only / *Uso exclusivo del juez electoral*

Precinct (Circle One) / *Recinto (Circule uno)*

E M 3 6 8 13 18

Councilmember (Vote for not more than seven (7))
Miembro del Concejo Municipal *(Vota por no más de siete (7))*

- Frankie Santos Fritz
- Bill Orleans
- Kristen L. K. Weaver
- Silke I. Pope
- Emmett V. Jordan
- Rodney M. Roberts
- Kevin "Coach K" Lockhart
- Danielle P. McKinney
- Jenni Pompi
- Amy Knesel
- Write-In / *Escribir*
- Write-In / *Escribir*
- Write-In / *Escribir*
- Write-In / *Escribir*
- Write-In / *Escribir*
- Write-In / *Escribir*

Advisory Referendum 1: Ranked Choice Voting
Do you approve of the City using Ranked Choice Voting for all City Council Member elections and amending the City Charter's forty percent (40%) threshold criteria (Sec 31)?

With Ranked Choice Voting, voters rank candidates in order of preference. Votes are considered in voters' order of preference and are redistributed as winners are determined (based on a threshold related to the number of seats) and last place candidates are eliminated.

Referéndum consultivo 1: Votación por orden de preferencia
¿Aprueba que la Ciudad utilice el sistema de votación por orden de preferencia para todas las elecciones de miembros del Concejo Municipal y modifique el criterio del umbral del cuarenta por ciento (40 %) del Estatuto de la Ciudad (Sección 31)?

Con la votación por orden de preferencia, los votantes clasifican a los candidatos según su preferencia. Los votos se contabilizan según su orden de preferencia y se redistribuyen a medida que se determinan los ganadores (según un umbral relacionado con el número de plazas) y se eliminan los candidatos que quedan en último lugar.

○ Yes / Sí ○ No / No

Advisory Referendum 2: Council Term Length
Should the Charter be amended to change Council terms from two years to four years?

Referéndum consultivo 2: Duración del mandato del Consejo
¿Debería modificarse el Estatuto para cambiar el mandato del Consejo de dos a cuatro años?

○ Yes / Sí ○ No / No

If four-year terms are approved, should Council Members be subject to Voter Recall Petitions during their terms in office?

Si se aprueban mandatos de cuatro años, ¿deberían los miembros del Consejo estar sujetos a peticiones de revocación de mandato durante sus mandatos?

○ Yes / Sí ○ No / No

City of Greenbelt (CS 3) - EC:702135

* VOLUNTEER * VACANCIES * APPLY FOR A COMMITTEE OR BOARD TODAY!

Volunteering for City of Greenbelt Committees & Boards is an excellent opportunity to engage with your community and make a difference. Choose from a number of committees & boards such as the **Advisory Committee on Education, Advisory Committee on Trees, Advisory Planning Board, Arts Advisory Board, Board of Elections, Charter Review Task Force, Ethics Commission, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Park and Recreation Advisory Board, or Youth Advisory Committee** and make a difference in Greenbelt!

Take the first step towards making a positive impact and apply for one of these committee vacancies today!

Call (301) 474-8000.

ARTS HAPPENINGS

Visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts for more information and many other opportunities!

Sign up for ARTFANS, a weekly e-newsletter, at www.greenbeltmd.gov/list.aspx.

Friends and Family Workshop (all ages): Craft Decorative Cornhusk People. Friday, October 17, 5:30-7:30pm, Greenbelt Community Center. Celebrate Indigenous Peoples Day with your family, friends, and community members while crafting these traditional figures. $5/$10. Advance registration encouraged; see page 38 of the fall activity guide - bit.ly/43iaEIN

Wild Rumpus dance workshop (ages 5 - adult): Wednesday, October 22, 6:30pm, Greenbelt Community Center. FREE! Walk-ins welcome. Learn a dance to perform with the flash mob at the Wild Rumpus on Friday, October 24. Also, practice on your own with this instructional video - bit.ly/4nNWG9T

MORE ARTS HAPPENING SOON

- **Art Share (meet-up)** 10/19, 7-8pm Greenbelt Community Center
- **Wonders of Watercolor** Starting 10/23, 6:30-8:30pm Greenbelt Community Center
- **FREE Fall Mosaic Workshop** 10/28, 6-8pm, Greenbelt Community Center

SENIOR TECH CAFE
Sundays - October 26, November 23 from 1-3 pm
Greenbelt Community Center, Room 109, 15 Crescent Road

Whether you're new to computers, iPhone, Android or just need a little guidance, we will do our very best to help! Don't miss this opportunity to have your questions answered. We look forward to helping you get started!

Note: We are not a "Genius Bar" and do not fix devices, but we're more than happy help you learn how to make the most of your technology.

FREE. Drop-in, first come first serve, no registration required, bring a friend!

Contact Priya Gardner Lemieux at pgardner@greenbeltmd.gov | (240) 542-2056.

FREE HEALTH SCREENINGS

Thursday, November 13, 10am - 1pm, 6101 Cherrywood Lane

Screenings for Blood Pressure, Cholesterol, and Diabetes at Springhill Lake Recreation Center.
To RSVP Call 240-424-0302

GREENBELT ANIMAL SERVICES REMINDER

As we approach the end of 2025, Greenbelt Animal Services would like to remind you that if you are a resident within the City of Greenbelt, you are eligible to receive a FREE spay/neuter and rabies vaccination through the MDA Grant until December 31, 2025. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to help control the pet population and keep your pet healthier.

If you are interested in applying for the FREE spay/neuter, please contact Greenbelt Animal Services at animalservices@greenbeltmd.gov or call us at 301-474-6124. Don't Delay, Neuter and Spay!

A majority (or quorum) of Greenbelt City Council members may attend community organization meetings, but no official Council action will be taken at these meetings. Please note that meeting locations may change after being published. For information on how to join these meetings, contact the respective organization directly.

EXERCISE EQUIPMENT AUCTION

Equipment Viewing Schedule:

Monday – Friday, 8 AM – 3:30 PM
Available on the following dates:

October 13–17

October 22–24

October 27–31

For any questions or to schedule a viewing, please contact: Sparks@greenbeltmd.gov. View our auctions at https://www.govdeals.com/greenbeltmdpw

FORUM continued from page 1

in the last term. Kristen Weaver, Danielle McKinney and Jenni Pompi also chose to answer this question in the third round.

Fritz cited two accomplishments: implementation of all-resident voting and endorsement of the general order on immigration, noting that barely one in six voters voted in the last municipal election, stressing that everyone needs to be at the table. Fritz praised council for prioritizing protection of immigrants in the face of "a fascist regime."

Knesel agreed with Fritz on the importance of all-resident voting, stressing that she learned to listen to many voices and that councilmembers can only support the community if they have input from residents.

Jordan found the building of external relationships, and working together were vital. "Greenbelt is not an island," he said. For example, completing the deal to acquire the armory involved talking to the head of the Maryland National Guard.

Weaver found the single most important accomplishment was the allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. Instead of one or two big projects, council sought ideas from the community and applied the skills, knowledge and expertise of the community in creative projects. She mentioned child care and business vouchers, support for reparations, community and the Buddy Attick Master Plan. McKinney echoed Knesel on the importance of new members of council learning the issues and connecting with the community to make informed decisions within a planning framework and seconded Weaver on the disbursement of ARPA funding, including tackling food insecurity. Pompi, who had worked on the ballot initiative for all-resident voting, also found this most important. She also emphasized the standing order that city police have no role in immigration enforcement.

Question Two: Use of the Armory Site

Four candidates were asked how the city should use the armory site and how to pay for that use: Pompi, McKinney, Kevin "Coach K" Lockhart and Silke Pope. Pompi, McKinney and Pope all mentioned that the three concept plans developed with community input each had good elements but none was perfect. They all noted the opportunities of this large, gateway site; perhaps low-income housing in partnership with nonprofit housing organizations, said Pompi. Perhaps partnering with the county and state to be a small business incubator, said McKinney. Maybe a little bit from each concept plan, Pope said.

Lockhart said that for him the armory was a sacred place as he had served there for three years as a member of the National Guard. He would like to see "something for our children," a place where they could learn how to meet the next stage in life. "Not every kid goes to college," so perhaps the armory could become a place where they could learn plumbing, other trades or general life skills.

Question Three: The Environment

What municipal actions could be taken to protect the environment, in light of declining federal support, was the third question posed.

PHOTO BY NICK HALL NH

Moderator Dave Zahren and Greenbelt News Review board member Erica Johns watch as Danielle McKinney (front right) listens while Jenni Pompi (front center) fields a question.

Bill Orleans said the city should ally with governmental and nongovernmental organizations advancing climate concerns. He also stated that many private companies remove trash and recycling from the city and thought the city should take it over, to reduce the number of trucks affecting the environment.

Rodney Roberts wants to "Think big and act big" and seek National Park status for Beltsville Agricultural Research Center and the Patuxent Wildlife Refuge, along with any Goddard federal land. It represents enormous green space and important habitat; it's vital to provide kids access to nature, said Roberts. He would work with groups such as the National Park Trust on this big cause.

Weaver noted steps council is already taking for environmental sustainability, such as the electrification of the city fleet, installation of electrical vehicle charging stations and the efforts to reduce trash with the pay-as-you-throw plan. She would like to see grants for the solarization of city buildings, local air quality monitoring and individual actions that could magnify across the city.

Question Four: Affordability

McKinney, Orleans and Knesel were asked what actions they would propose to increase the nonresidential tax rate and keep Greenbelt affordable. Fritz and Jordan also chose to answer this question. McKinney and Orleans both addressed the commercial tax rate and how the city should work with the state on reducing tax abatements for businesses. Knesel, noting the empty high-rise office buildings once occupied by NASA contractors, argued for motivating developers to make those spaces more attractive as incubator spaces for small businesses and start-up companies that could help provide jobs to residents.

Fritz, combining an answer to this question with questions about the armory site and unemployment, envisions Greenbelt as a cultural powerhouse if the city enhances transportation options for local job access, including better routes and more frequent runs of Green Line trains, WMATA buses, MARC and Amtrak. Development of the armory site as a job incubator would depend on a transportation justice strategy.

Jordan acknowledged the challenging times and said it is crucial for the city to stabilize businesses here and build on our strengths, such as the city's economic development staff. He mentioned "the medical mile" of health care practices along Hanover Parkway and the possibility of bringing in more.

Question Five: Violent Crime

Weaver, Pompi, Fritz and Jordan were asked what specific actions the city could take to deter violent crime, with Roberts, Lockhart, Pope and Knesel also weighing in on this topic in light of the devastating murders the weekend before. The community policing model earned praise from many, who, at the same time, acknowledged that it is not enough. Ways must be found to reach young people who are at risk, with after-school resources (Weaver); more money for youth and social services (Pompi); more open space funds to build a park in Greenbelt West (Roberts); more patrols, more officers, more funding (Pope) and getting guns out of the hands of kids (Jordan).

Lockhart, who coaches at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center, found this a particularly emotional issue, urging that the police engage more with the community on foot and bike patrols, not just drive-by policing. He suggested a Police Athletic League where officers could serve as mentors and coaches so the kids would learn to trust the police and not fear them.

Fritz and Knesel both talked about the effects of economic disparity and the lack of affordable housing on crimes in Greenbelt's different neighborhoods. Fritz emphasized racial disparity in neighborhoods and talked about the needs of children as parents work multiple jobs and longer hours to avoid evictions and that social services come only after the harm has been done. Knesel, who noted that she and many members of the community were participating in the HUG WALK when the 14-year-old was shot and killed nearby, said the lack of neighborhood stability with frequent evictions and rental turnovers inhibits community members from looking after each other.

Question Six: Job Loss

The final question, asked of Pope, Lockhart and Roberts and also answered by Orleans, concerned how to support residents who have recently lost their jobs and how to pay for those strategies. All four stressed the need for citizens to take care of each other, particularly in light of the government shutdown and other federal job losses affecting the city. Pope and Orleans focused on food, with city food distribution, the interfaith food pantry and, as Orleans suggested, mutual aid societies hosting meals in the city gym, Springhill Lake Recreation Center and perhaps the Firehouse. Lockhart and Roberts urged all residents to reach out and help each other – if you have a job that needs to be done, hire someone local to do it. People need to help each other, they said.

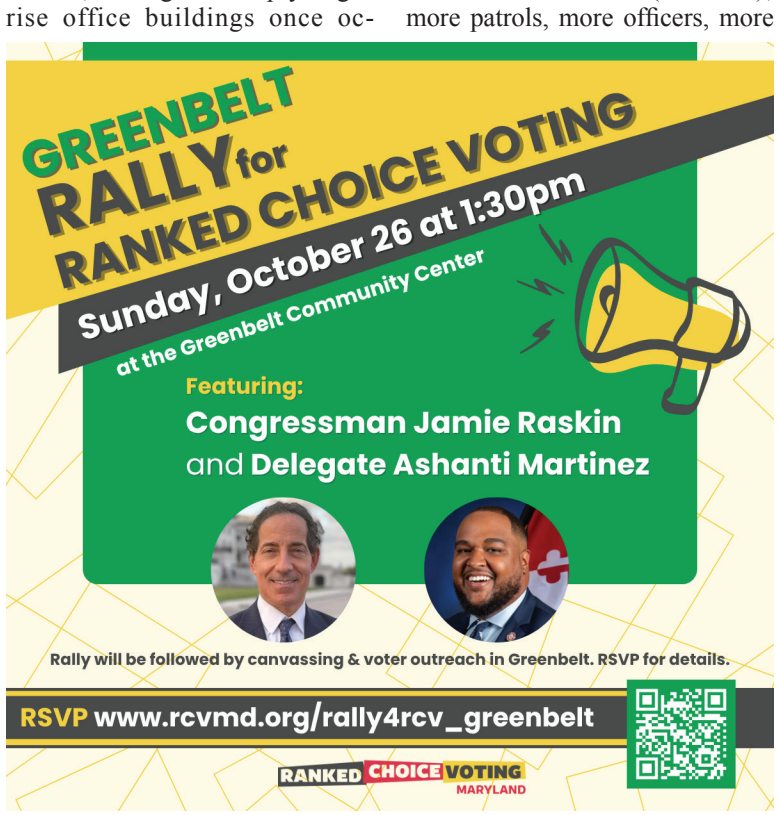
Closing Statements

In their 90-second closing statements candidates each stressed their key themes.

Pompi said that in these unprecedented times, Greenbelt needs leaders with the moral courage to take stands and get things done, such as the standing order against police enforcement on immigration and commitment to the city's JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion) goals.

Roberts stressed his 34 years of accomplishments on council but noted that it was a result of the people he has worked with over the years on council and in

See **FORUM,** page 12



My Point of View

Importance of Local Newspapers

by Lois Rosado

Last week PBS showed a remarkable story about the loss of local community and large nationwide newspapers, and discussions were held about the implications of that reality in preserving democratic principles. The fact that both large and small newspapers are being taken over by hedge fund magnates, firing investigative journalists and advancing propaganda-type information means that balanced reporting no longer exists.

The First Amendment of the Constitution protects Freedom of the Press in order to prevent tyranny, misinformation and dictatorship from developing in the United States.

When local papers close, information about city, state and federal government decisions is no longer available – especially to those who live in rural communities. With the closure of public radio stations in many of these areas as a result of government defunding, there is even less opportunity to learn what is happening that can impact everyday life. In such climates, misinformation can run rampant and cause divisiveness within a community.

Facts and evidence are being sacrificed for hearsay and idolatry. In order to find information based on evidence, one has to comb through many different types of media, including what is left in print.

We, in Greenbelt, have been fortunate for the continued coverage by the Greenbelt News Review to be able to read what issues and decisions are being contemplated at the local, state and federal government levels that will affect our county and the City of Greenbelt especially.

Our local paper needs our support and also needs more writers from East and West Greenbelt to share neighbor stories to help inform all residents about local happenings. Become a champion of the Greenbelt News Review, get involved.

Let's keep the Greenbelt News Review alive and viable for years to come. Let's not lose our local paper!

Lois Rosado is a News Review staff member writing occasional stories.

PGCMLS Partner Spotlight: Unselfish Acts of Kindness

The Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) is proud to partner with an array of organizations that do important work within Prince George's County. For this Library Check-In, the spotlight is on Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness (RUAK), a Greenbelt organization whose founder, Robert Goldberg-Strassler, was recently recognized as Greenbelt's 2025 Outstanding Citizen.

RUAK was founded in 2017 to foster community connections in Greenbelt. One pillar of RUAK's work is the Uplift Literacy program, which is designed to facilitate greater access to early childhood literacy for Greenbelt families, largely through a monthly dual-language Pre-K Story Hour with the Greenbelt Library that brings library storytime services directly into the community. At these programs, kids get free books, snacks and access to fun activities like scavenger hunts and active play in the gym.

"For me, it's so important that it was us neighbors who made this happen," says Jennifer Dudley, president of the Greenbelt Rotary and a founding RUAK volunteer. "And then to see the impact this opportunity has on these families, to see the kids just shine when they pick out their books – it's become a part of our routine to watch these families grow. That's the beautiful thing about the library: it connects us to learning, and to each other."

This article was drawn from a PGCMLS Partner Spotlight announcement.

PHOTO COURTESY PGCMLS

Greenbelt Branch Librarian Joe Vincent leads movement activities and reads aloud from Chicka Chicka Boom Boom/Tika Tika Boum Boum! at the RUAK storytime on Friday, September 12. For more photos from a past winter-themed storytime, check out the PGCMLS Flickr account.

More Energy. Better Nutrition. Every Sip. Smoothies packed with protein & balanced nutrition. Refreshers that boost focus, energy & healthy digestion. Stop by ENC, our fun, welcoming space where health and community come together.

@Elevation_Nutrition_Club

Elevation Nutrition Club

7425 Forbes Blvd Ste 103, Lanham MD 20706

Senior Nutrition Program Luncheon

The Senior Nutrition Food and Friendship program provides lunch for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at 11:30 a.m. Meals must be reserved two weeks ahead so that enough food is ordered. Participants must complete a registration form in person at the Community Center office, Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. There is a suggested donation. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215 with questions.

Two menu options, one vegetarian, will be offered for each luncheon. All meals, which provide at least one third of recommended dietary allowances for older adults, include margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk.

Chamber Music Nov. 1 At the New Deal Café

Members of Greenbelt Community Orchestra will play string quartets and quintets at the New Deal Café on Saturday, November 1 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. All are welcome to come listen to music by Mozart and other classical composers.

The next free concert by the full orchestra will take place on Sunday, November 16 at 3 p.m. in the Community Center gym.

Visit greenbeltorchestra.org for more information.

A Review

Utopia Festival: A Cinematic Delight for Viewers, Filmmakers

by Joshica Kiah Craig

The Utopia Film Festival is held each October. Last year's was nothing short of a remarkable experience – easily one of the best film festivals I've ever attended.

The lineup was diverse, thought-provoking and a testament to the power of storytelling in its many forms. The festival kicked off with a reception and awards ceremony with dinner, a professional photographer for a "red carpet" moment and gift bags filled with Utopia Film Festival swag. They presented awards in several categories and screened some of the films. During the festival an impressive array of films spanning genres and cultures were shown, offering something for every type of cinephile. From compelling documentaries to heartwarming indie dramas, the selection was carefully curated to both entertain and inspire. My documentary Black Hair Love, an exploration of the rise of women-owned businesses centered around Black hair, left a lasting impact on the audience. The film's celebration of identity, diversity and entrepreneurship was perfectly aligned with the festival's theme of inclusivity and empowerment.

One of several venues, the historic Greenbelt Cinema added a touch of nostalgia and charm to the festival experience. Its intimate setting fostered a sense of community among attendees, making it easy to engage in conversations with fellow film enthusiasts and filmmakers alike. The theater's staff was welcoming and attentive, ensuring that every aspect of the event ran smoothly. Inside, the theater was clean and modern and the popcorn was delicious.

The communication was excellent and the engaging post-screening Q&A sessions were well curated, providing invaluable insights into the filmmaking process and allowing the audience to delve deeper into the themes presented on screen. It was a unique opportunity to hear directly from the filmmakers and gain a better understanding of the stories behind the films.

The Utopia Film Festival not only showcased outstanding films but also fostered a spirit of collaboration and dialogue among creatives and audiences. It was a celebration of cinematic artistry that left attendees feeling inspired and enriched. For anyone who appreciates the transformative power of film, the Utopia Film Festival is a must-attend event. I eagerly anticipate what this year's festival will bring and am grateful for the opportunity to be a part of such an extraordinary celebration of film.

Filmmaker Joshica Kiah Craig is a graduate of Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

The Utopia Film Festival returns October 18-20, transforming the city into a hub for independent film and creative conversation. Screenings will take place at the Greenbelt Cinema, New Deal Café and Greenbelt 835 Firehouse, showcasing bold documentaries, visionary shorts and inspiring features from around the world. The festival's mission is to highlight stories that spark imagination and social change: from environmental justice to community resilience. Highlights include filmmaker Q&As and local artist showcases. Explore the full lineup at greenbeltaccesstv.org/utopia-film-festival.

Toastmasters Meet

The Greenbelt Toastmasters Club invites all to join them online every first, third and fifth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. The club provides a fun and friendly environment for anyone interested in improving their public speaking and leadership skills. Learn more at greenbelt.toastmastersclubs.org.

Drop us a Line!

Electronically, that is.

editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com

FRANKIE FRITZ FOR GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL

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- ENHANCE BUS, BIKE, AND TRAIL NETWORKS
- PROTECT OUR IMMIGRANT AND LGBTQ+ NEIGHBORS

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- HOUSING AND PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY ANALYST FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT
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AUTHORIZED BY FRANKIE FOR GREENBELT, EMILY FRIAS, TREASURER.

BARC continued from page 1

PHOTO BY MARK SHERMAN

An August 2025 scene on the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, looking north toward Powder Mill Road and Building 200 from Sheep Road

at the National Archives in College Park) – there was land adjacent to BARC that had become "seriously run-down" but was "scenically attractive" and suitable for construction of a complete community. The site offered "economy in building costs," and there was a "plentiful supply of relief labor" available in the area and urgently in need of employment. Selection of the site offered both an opportunity to expand the land base of the research center and to provide housing accommodation for its staff. The report stated: "Greenbelt is an important feature in the development of the National Agricultural Research Center, which, it is expected, will eventually become the largest Agricultural Research Center in the world." Of course, proximity to Washington, D.C., was also a consideration in selection of the site for Greenbelt, although Tugwell and Lansill had concerns that the site was too close to Washington scrutiny; Richards saw that as a minor disadvantage compared to the unique opportunity of establishing a "housing lab" in conjunction with the agricultural research center.

By mid-March of 1935, acquisition of land for the Greenbelt project was underway, guided by the basic objective for the Greenbelt Town Program "to obtain a large tract of land, and thus avoid the complications ordinarily due to diverse ownerships." Most of the land was optioned by the Land Utilization Division of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration and the Subsistence Homestead Division of the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), with the newly created Resettlement Administration inheriting that land and adding to it. Nearly 12,200 acres had been purchased by September 1935 of which only about 4,000 acres was to be devoted to the Greenbelt Project. The remaining roughly 8,200 acres were turned over to BARC, which had already grown to roughly 5,500 acres since its establishment in 1910, when USDA purchased the 475-acre Walnut Grange property. The land transferred was "for the use of the Bureau of Animal Industry, Bureau of Dairy Industry, Experimental Forestry, Plant Industry, Biological Survey and Soil Conservation."

An early outcome was use of 2,670 acres to create the Patuxent Research Refuge (now under DOI), which President Franklin Roosevelt established through executive order in 1936. Over the past 90 years, other federal agencies have built facilities on land acquired under the auspices of the Greenbelt Project and given to BARC, including NASA, the Food and Drug Administration, Secret Service and State Department. These land transfers brought BARC down to its current size of approximately 6,500 acres.

Additional information on Greenbelt's origins and early history can be found online or in books available in the Greenbelt Library's Tugwell Room, including The New Deal in the Suburbs: A History of the Greenbelt Town Program, 1935-1954 by J.L. Arnold (1971, Ohio University Press); Greenbelt: History of a New Town, 1937-1987 (M.L. Williamson, editor; 1987, The Donning Company/Publishers); and Greenbelt, Maryland: A Living Legacy of the New Deal by Cathy Knepper (2001, Johns Hopkins University Press).

Re-elect

Emmett V. Jordan

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By Authority of Tom Jones, Treasurer

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SIGNS continued from page 1

city. Following approval in May 2022, the project kicked off in January 2023.

"I just want to remind folks these are conceptual; anything that comes from this will have to go into further design, which will be an implementation cost," said Fearer at the start of the presentation.

Types of Signs

The plan aims to improve navigation for residents and visitors, and enhance Greenbelt's sense of place. It includes gateway signs, like the one on Southway, directional signs for cars, bikes and pedestrians and informational signage. The city plans to also include banners, trail markers, informational kiosks and directories. Currently, signs exist in the city, but vary in quality, the way information is presented, ownership and material, said Fearer at the meeting.

Costs

The signs can be expensive, and one sign that welcomes visitors to Greenbelt can cost up to $30,000. The recent gateway sign on Southway was funded by a $50,000 grant with approximately $30,000 in matching money from the city. However, "it is important to note that a significant portion of the costs weren't related to the cast stone sign itself, but rather to the demolition and reconstruction of the sitting wall at that location," Fearer noted.

The draft plan calls for the addition of five new gateway signs, as well as other forms of signage throughout the city. Looking at a table of costs that ranged as high as $30,000 for a gateway sign and $2,000 to $4,000 for a vehicular directional sign, Jordan asked if they were aggregate costs or for individual signs and was told the latter, and he jokingly asked if they could make them hollow.

In addition to the cost of the signs, the installation costs are estimated to run an additional 35 to 50 percent of the materials cost, lighting to be another $1,500 to $5,000 and the design, permitting and engineering fees to be 10 to 20 percent of the total project cost. Councilmember Silke Pope asked if installation could be done in-house rather than contracted out and Fearer responded that it might be possible for some of the banners, for example, but they didn't yet know to that level of detail.

AAB Recommendation

Amanda Larsen of the Arts Advisory Board (AAB) said that their board recommends that a graphic designer be hired to go beyond the concept stage and give consideration to the architecture of Greenbelt while also considering the clarity of the signs. Larsen also noted that the AAB was interested in bringing more visibility to the arts in Greenbelt, and to venues such as the Cinema.

Scaling Back

Jordan urged staff to research alternative materials and suggested materials like carbon fiber and epoxy resin. "There are a lot of different materials that have been developed … that are just as durable as concrete … that could be used that are a lot lighter and would last a significant amount of time," Jordan said.

Councilmember Kristen Weaver also recognized the project's cost and stressed the importance of intentional spending. Greenbelt doesn't just have to worry about the upfront costs of these signs, but also the long-term maintenance and replacement schedule, said Weaver. "We need to be careful to think about all of the costs in our decisions," Weaver said. "There's the cost of the sign, but there's also the cost of … does this sign have more maintenance in the future? Can it be done in-house, or is it someone else that has to take care of it?"

Councilmember Rodney Roberts questioned the necessity of numerous signs, given that people use the GPS systems in their cars and on their phones nowadays to get to their destinations. "Maybe we don't need to put in a couple million dollars' worth of signs," he said.

Phased Implementation

Asked about the total costs of the project, Fearer told the News Review: "The plan doesn't outline a total cost estimate in part because final costs will vary depending on multiple factors, including materials, installation, site preparation, signage complexity, regulatory requirements, design and consulting fees, project management and labor costs and maintenance. The city also anticipates implementing the proposed wayfinding in a phased manner, as outlined in the plan. Each sign type can be designed and installed independently based on funding availability and city priorities, and if funding becomes available for specific elements, those can be installed as standalone projects while still conforming to the overall wayfinding plan."

CREATED BY NEIGHBORHOOD DESIGN CENTER

Renderings of informational signage

Wayfinding	Sign Type	Cost Range
Gateway	Monument	$10,000-$30,000
Directional	Vehicular	$2,000-$4,000
Directional	Pedestrian	$1,600-$2,500
Directional/Identification	Trail Marker	$250-$350
Identification	Banner	$200-$500
Informational	Directory	$2,000-$5,000
Informational	Kiosk	$1,000-$3,500

COURTESY CITY OF GREENBELT

Projected sign costs in the draft Wayfaring plan presented to council

Funding

"The city does not currently have funding earmarked for implementation of the wayfinding plan," Fearer told the News Review. "As mentioned in the plan, the city will explore a number of funding opportunities, including federal, state, local and philanthropic grants."

Potential sources of funding for this project, as cited in the draft, include federal monies and grants such as the Department of Transportation's Transportation Alternatives Program, Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Grants, the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development's Community Legacy Program and the Federal Highway Administration's Recreation Trails Program. There is also the possibility of funding from Prince George's County Regional Development Authority and public-private partnerships, according to the presentation at the worksession. The final draft of the plan is expected to be completed in February 2026, according to a previous city council work session agenda.

Ashna Balroop is a University of Maryland student at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism writing for the Greenbelt News Review.

Spellman Overpass Sign-waving Fridays

Everyone is invited by Indivisible of the Route 1 Corridor and by other Greenbelters to do the following:

Show up at the Spellman Overpass on the Baltimore-Washington Parkway every Friday from 4 to 6 p.m. (Walk east on Gardenway from Ridge Road or west from Hanover Parkway.)

Assert the importance of U.S. democracy, the rule of law and our belief that NO kings are welcome. Bring generous goodwill, noisemakers, signs and banners.

Email k2e9u09mj@mozmail.com for questions.

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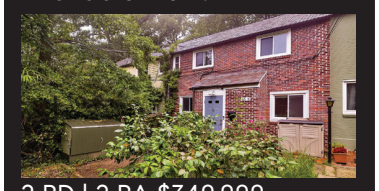
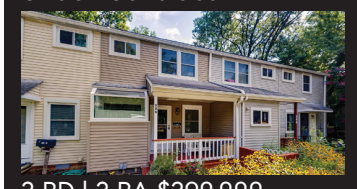


2 BD | 2 BA $340,000
This roomy 2-bedroom brick Greenbelt co-op townhome has been expanded to create a space that could be used as a third bedroom, or a great home office or family room, with a second full bath.

16N Ridge Road
Under Contract

3 BD | 2 BA $256,000
This charmer features a rare first-floor addition with a full bath, perfect as a third bedroom or cozy sitting room, along with fresh updates and great outdoor spaces for morning coffee or evening relaxation.

58C Ridge Road
Under Contract



2 BD | 2 BA $290,000
This charmer has a very smart addition that includes a second full bath. Plus, a kitchen bump-out brings in more light and extra workspace, and other fun architectural details add flair and practicality to this co-op townhome.

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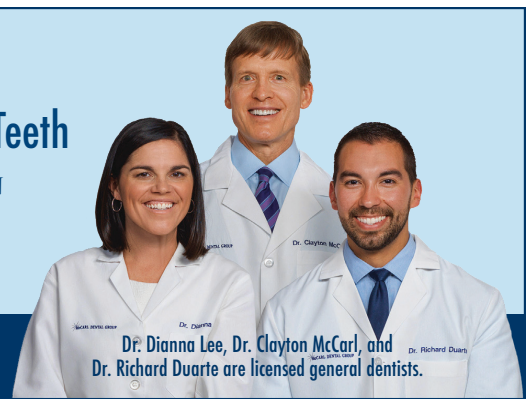

Dr. Dianna Lee, Dr. Clayton McCarl, and Dr. Richard Duarte are licensed general dentists.

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ANSWERS continued from page 1

years' budgets, which would provide degrees of assistance beyond the end of Covid's emergency rental and foreclosure assistance. It should have done so.

Emmett V. Jordan

Given the current economic uncertainty, I will prioritize investments in our residents and local economy. Partnering with the county and state for career resources is important. By investing in retraining and upskilling programs for displaced federal workers, youth and older adults, we help residents remain in Greenbelt. Supporting grassroots efforts and fostering innovation will drive stability, creativity and growth.

We may need to revisit support programs that aided our community during the pandemic: food distribution, emergency mortgage and rental assistance, counseling and family services.

To strengthen our economy, Greenbelt must work with organizations like Prince George's Chamber of Commerce and Greenbelt Business Alliance to build on local strengths and address weaknesses.

Redirecting undesignated funds toward workforce development and deferring capital improvement projects may be necessary to achieve these goals. A balanced, forward-thinking approach ensures no one is left behind, positioning Greenbelt as a resilient city of opportunity for all.

Amy Knesel

The power and strength of Greenbelt has always been its people. I believe our city's spending should prioritize people-first programs that keep our community strong and stable. That doesn't mean neglecting deferred maintenance – putting off repairs only makes them more costly later – but it does mean being strategic. We should continue pursuing grants and outside funding to free up city resources, and invest in small, local businesses so more office space is filled, business tax revenue grows and residents have good jobs close to home.

We must also stay mindful about housing, doing everything we can to help people stay in their homes. When residents are forced out, we lose more than neighbors – we lose community. The stronger and more connected we are, the better our city functions. When residents are engaged and supported, everyone, including our staff, benefits.

Danielle P. McKinney

Greenbelt's $40.1 million budget should reflect both fiscal responsibility and the values that make our community strong. Nearly 75 percent of the budget already supports essential services – public safety, housing stability, health programs and food access – that protect residents and preserve our quality of life.

As costs rise and state and federal funding decline, we must make every dollar count. That means using remaining ARPA funds through 2026 to support infrastructure, phasing capital projects, leveraging community partnerships, automating systems and sunsetting programs that no longer meet community needs. Greenbelt should prioritize implementing its Economic Development Strategy and maintaining initiatives with measurable community impact and sustainability.

I will continue to champion partnerships, grants, food access and workforce development initiatives – like apprenticeships and job transition programs – that strengthen residents' stability and our local economy. Balancing efficiency with compassion should protect the Greenbelt we cherish while preparing for a vibrant, inclusive, resilient future.

Jenni Pompi

To address current economic challenges, the City Council should prioritize funding our vital social services, including counseling, food distribution and emergency rental aid. In addition, we should strategically invest in workforce development for residents and economic development to strengthen Greenbelt's job market. Maintaining the city's vibrant public parks and community amenities also will be important to help residents maintain quality of life.

To maintain and increase the social services out-of-work residents may require, the city will need to defer some expensive capital projects and replacement spending on items such as fleet vehicles and other equipment. Greenbelt also will need to explore new grant opportunities to boost revenue and consider increasing collaborations with neighboring municipalities to split costs on shared services.

It also will be essential for council to be transparent about the city's budget forecast and planning and work to engage the community on formulating solutions.

Rodney M. Roberts

We need to stop wasting money on things we don't need! Examples: A $16,000 truck engine; replacement of a $270,000 loader that had nothing wrong with it; $700,000 for a trash truck that we did not need; replacement of a $150,000 rollback tow truck that needed only minor repairs.

We have a budget request of $500,000 to replace the outhouse at the Lake Park, that in my estimation needs less than $5,000 in what should be routine maintenance.

There's a push for a new municipal building for many millions of dollars because we need more office space, while at the same time we want to tear down a beautiful, structurally sound building that would more than meet our needs (the Armory).

We rely more and more on contractors and consultants. Instead, let's invest in our people with education/training so we can do more ourselves for less!

Silke I. Pope

We must be financially prudent and strategic in allocating the city's resources. A careful review of all programs and spending should be done to determine which are most effective and which need to be realigned to reflect our current financial situation. Priority should be placed on investing in services that provide the greatest value and benefit to our residents.

Looking ahead we must plan for long-term stability by diversifying our revenue sources. Relying primarily on property taxes is not sustainable. It is important for us to find creative ways to grow our city's revenues without increasing the tax burden on residents.

Pursuing grant opportunities is essential. The redevelopment of the Greenbelt Armory site presents an opportunity to strengthen our local economy and expand our tax base. Thoughtful planning and wise financial management can ensure that Greenbelt remains fiscally strong, resilient and well-prepared for the future.

Kristen L.K. Weaver

Instead of one disruptive change, Greenbelt is best served by finding small efficiencies to make the necessary savings. Recent examples include: implementing electronic financial systems; bringing online Greenbelt's solar farm; and uncovering Pepco overcharges for streetlights. Switching to LED streetlights would save even more. I also support Save As You Throw unit-based pricing for trash, in part, because it could reduce the city's landfill fees by 40 percent based on reduced trash generation. Small economies added together allow us to maintain vital city services as costs rise.

Council also needs to continue advocating to the county for increased tax differentials. Greenbelt provides certain services, such as police and public works, that are also provided by the county. Greenbelt citizens should not be taxed twice – once by the city and once by the county – for these services. Increased tax differentials lower residents' county taxes in recognition of this.

Kevin "Coach K" Lockhart

Given the economic challenges in Greenbelt, the city council should shift its spending priorities to directly support residents by expanding existing programs focused on affordable housing, job training and community services. Public engagement should be a critical part of this process, allowing residents to advocate for changes and provide input during the budget cycle.

Here are some ideas that are already in place but may not be widely known among residents, especially in the West side of Greenbelt (Franklin Park):

- Expand direct financial and social support: Develop programs that provide immediate and tangible relief to residents facing economic hardships.
- Create emergency assistance funds.
- Support food assistance programs.
- Increase funding for Greenbelt CARES.
- More police engagement in the West side.

Frankie Santos Fritz

As recent tragedies show, public safety will continue to be a core concern. Shootings and violence impact our quality of life and feelings of safety, and evidence-based investments in prevention and deterrence, especially for youth, must be considered alongside measures for timely accountability for violence.

We need to center economic development, including phone service improvements, and enhance transportation to diversify our economy and be an enticing home for new residents.

The city should do more to engage residents in existing community-driven mutual aid and organizing efforts. For example, supporting and partnering with neighborhood and tenant organizations to educate residents about rights and responsibilities under the law can increase the effectiveness of our complaint-based enforcement staffing.

Finally we should regularly review and track the effectiveness of the various city consultants and contractors, and look at ways to cooperatively procure external services with neighboring jurisdictions and agencies to find savings.

City Notes

The Greenbelt Assistance in Living program's Health Fair at the Community Center had 20 providers; about 75 residents attended and 46 received flu shots.

Economic Development led a tour of the Pikesville Armory redevelopment project for councilmembers and city staff.

Public Safety and Community hosted a meeting to plan citywide Get Out the Vote efforts.

The Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket's September round-up program netted $3,032.25 for the Animal Shelter and the Pooch Plunge drew 38 participants and raised $415. Shelter residents are five cats, four kittens and four dogs.

Public Works Street crews installed six thermoplastic crosswalks on Crescent Road, and Facility Maintenance began replacing boilers at the Community Center.

Horticulture/Parks/Ballfields installed cookout grills, two at the Lake and one at Schrom Hills Park. Environmental, with 15 volunteers, removed litter and invasives from the lakefront.

Springhill Lake Recreation Center hosted Fall Fest and Arts held an Artful Afternoon. Therapeutic Recreation took seniors to Butler's Orchard and the Museum installed Halloween decorations.

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By authority Jenni Pompi for Greenbelt, Kimberly Walsh, Treasurer

Letters, from p.2

evictions for residents living in a city cooperative, HOAs and apartment complexes. I hope that these two evictions are the last ones I see and witness in the cooperative. I plead and ask the membership to get involved and attend the monthly GHI Board open meetings.

Claudia Jones, GHI member

Annexation Comments

Ron Benjamin's October 9 letter about the potential annexation of Beltsville Agriculture Station land raises an interesting point.

If his reading of the Maryland Code is correct, an annexation of Beltsville Agricultural Station land would allow the county and the City of Greenbelt to authorize development of the land because there had been no sale. It is unfortunately true that real estate interests are one of the largest funding sources for all local political campaigns. So any annexation could be a backdoor for development.

We should, of course, keep an eye on the actions of neighboring jurisdictions who may want to either annex the land or help Greenbelt preserve its present use. But until the federal government make moves to dispose of the land, I believe it is unnecessary to spend money preparing for an annexation.

I was not aware that the WMATA Greenbelt repair and storage yard was on Beltsville land. This raises interesting questions about the long-term future of the Beltsville land north of the repair yard, which is about the right distance north of the Greenbelt Station to warrant a new WMATA station and high-density, mixed-use development. Having known a number of very successful and wealthy developers in the past, I can tell you that the potential for that site has probably not gone unnoticed.

David B. Miller

Indoor Pool Rejoicing

Oh joy! Oh bliss! Oh relief for aching muscles and bones! Oh community! The indoor pool is open again.

I am writing to recognize, and thank, the steadfast staff at the Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center (GAFC), the Public Works staff and all the other behind-the-scenes planners and do-ers who made the repair and reopening of the indoor pool on the projected date possible.

Shout-outs to Stephen Parks and Cynthia Brown of GAFC for being on the frontline of meeting the needs of the wide variety of regular users of the indoor pool. They created a respectful and inclusive schedule, while maintaining a competent and sunny outlook during (what must have been) a frustrating project on such a large scale.

Many thanks to the amazing team of front desk staff, fitness instructors, lifeguards and pool managers, who kept the passholders and guests as comfortable as possible during the not-so-warm, hot and then not-so-hot weather this spring, summer and fall. These fine city employees deal with a lot of guff and roll with it.

I know I am not alone in my gratitude.

Susan Taylor

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Report cable equipment or wiring issues to:

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FORUM continued from page 6

public. He said he had the desire to continue to get things done.

Knesel stated that the community's strength comes from the connections that are forged. Noting that she was appointed to council after Ric Gordon's death, she wants to continue his legacy and believes in her ability to meet the challenges the city faces.

Fritz attempted to cover a number of issues, including supporting federal workers, working toward a union for city employees, enhancing transportation to better connect the city and protecting the rights of immigrants and the LGBTQ community. "Your vote is your voice," he said.

Orleans urged greater voter turnout, but warned, "Your vote is not your voice. Your voice is your voice." He called on people to vote but also get involved. They should attend city council meetings, said Orleans, noting that, rather than paying the eternal vigilance that is the price of liberty, Greenbelt residents are "not even casually attentive."

Lockhart, as he had done throughout the night, stressed that "The main thing is the kids, the children." Greenbelt residents need to work with them and help be part of the solution.

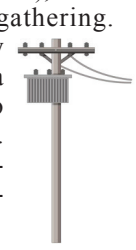
Jordan noted his 15 years of experience on council, helping to block maglev and weather Covid. He said affordability is his number one priority to find ways to keep people in their homes.

Weaver, McKinney and Pope all applauded Greenbelt's cooperative ethos and spirit of volunteerism. Weaver stressed that she is organized and compassionate and wants to work with council to set policy after feedback from the community. McKinney called herself a facilitator who works to connect the diverse community and find creative and imaginative ways to support them. Pope talked about her long commitment to public safety and neighborhood improvement from the time she lived in Springhill Lake (now Franklin Park).

Interested citizens can watch GATe's recording of the forum in full at tinyurl.com/2025GreenbeltCandidateForum.

Greenbelt Utility Pole Lookalike Gathering

At 2 p.m. on Sunday, October 26, at the Greenbelt Utility Pole (you figure out which one), there will be a lookalike gathering. Wear your best utility pole costume. Bring a prize and award it to your favorite cosplayer. Fawning admirers welcome. Photography encouraged.



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Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred October 6-12, 2025. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an inquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email pd@greenbeltmd.gov. Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Incident Summary

Greenbelt Police reported one death; two domestic incidents, one involving assault; and two mental health diversions.

Armed Teen Arrested

On October 12 at 3:54 p.m. near 6088 Greenbelt Road, a security officer witnessed a group of three teens wearing all black aggressively confronting another teenaged boy. The lone teen pulled out a handgun in self-defense, causing the group to back away and leave. Police located the teen and found the handgun in his waistband. He was arrested and taken to Greenbelt Police station.

Assault with Arrest

On October 8 at 1:02 p.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, mall security restrained a man who assaulted an employee; police arrested him.

Break-in

On October 9 at 1:55 p.m. near 9012 Breezewood Terrace, a storage room containing cleaning supplies was broken into and supplies were tossed around, but nothing was reported missing.

Threats

On October 6 at 10:14 a.m. near 6000 Greenbelt Road, a man entered a store and created a disturbance, saying he was going to shoot up the store.

On October 7 at 10:34 a.m. near 9150 Edmonston Road, a resident made threats to the leasing office via their AI portal; officers tried to make contact with the resident.

Fraud

On October 6 near 5999 Springhill Drive, a customer discovered that one of her utility accounts was linked to someone else; she contacted the utility company to resolve the issue.

On October 6 near 7513 Greenbelt Road, a woman lost her wallet and credit cards; she froze her accounts, and someone unsuccessfully tried to use her cards to purchase items.

On October 9 near 230 Lastner Lane, fraudulent activity appeared on a credit card account.

Theft and Shoplifting

On October 6 at 1:52 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a woman was caught shoplifting and was cited, banned and released; at 6:41 p.m. near 5908 Cherrywood Terrace, someone moving out of an apartment had several items stolen.

On October 7 at 3:43 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a store's loss prevention staff detained a shoplifter who was previously banned; police released him with a criminal citation.

On October 8 at 12:23 p.m. near 5910 Greenbelt Road, two people stole several items.

On October 10 at 1:56 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a woman stole several items and was stopped, banned and issued a criminal citation.

On October 11 at 4:54 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, two people stole several items and fled in a vehicle.

On October 12 at 3:17 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a boy stole miscellaneous items; all the items were returned, and he was released to his parent.

Vandalism

On October 7 near Greenhill Road and Crescent Road, at the tennis courts next to Braden Field, someone had drawn on the signage, marking over the rules of the tennis courts.

Vehicle Crimes

Stolen Vehicle

On October 12 near 9140 Edmonston Court, a green 2021 Lexus RX300 (Md. 1GL8731) was stolen.

Stolen Vehicle Recovered with Arrest

On October 6 at 6:21 p.m. near 6500 Capitol Drive, a man saw someone driving his vehicle away from the dealership, toward Walker Drive. When the thief returned without the vehicle, the owner apprehended him. Officers came, arrested the thief and located the vehicle.

Theft from Auto

On October 7, the wheels were stolen from three cars: a Honda Civic near 6400 Ivy Lane, a 2024 Civic near 7200 Hanover Drive and a 2024 Toyota Camry near 6023 Springhill Drive.

Vandalism to Auto

On October 9 near Springhill Drive, a Dodge Charger had a window broken and ignition damage.

On October 10 near 7406 Morrison Drive, a 2019 Chevrolet Traverse had a window broken.

Crisis Hotline's New Number is 988

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline dialing code has changed, effective July 16. The new three-digit dialing code is 988 and it's available for phone calls and text messages.

The former Lifeline phone number (1-800-273-8255) will continue to be accessible.

Calls and text messages are confidential and free.

"No matter what problems you're dealing with, whether or not you're thinking about suicide, if you need someone to lean on for emotional support, call the Lifeline," the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline says on its website at samhsa.gov/find-help/988.

Cyclist Killed in Hit-And-Run In BARC; Shaking Community

On Wednesday, October 8, cyclist Lisa Martin was killed in a hit-and-run incident while riding her bike within the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC). Martin, 50, of Riverdale, was president of Route One Velo, a cycling club and racing team. An announcement from Route One Velo said, "Lisa was more than a teammate: she was a friend and guide for our adventures on two wheels and through life. All who rode with her felt her guidance."

Martin was director of data and engagement strategies at the laborers' union LIUNA. She leaves behind her husband, children, mother, stepfather and numerous friends, including those of a shaken local cycling community.

The investigation into the hit-and-run is thought by local police departments to be handled by U.S. Park Police. Speaking to the News Review on Monday, U.S. Park Police directed us to email their records department for further information but advised us that the government is closed.

Services will be held Saturday, October 18 at the Boston St. Fort Funeral Home, 5801 Cleveland Avenue, Riverdale. Visitation is at 10 a.m. with service to follow. A graveside service will be at 2 p.m. at George Washington Cemetery in Adelphi.

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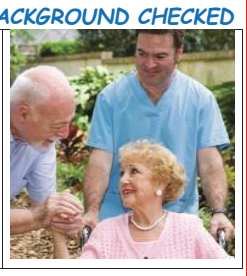

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GREENBELT COMMUNITY - I will continue to support a wide variety of programs for our seniors, family and youth. Our community thrives when we invest in people - through arts, culture and environmental programs that keeps Greenbelt creative, caring and environmentally proactive.

PUBLIC SAFETY - I will keep working to ensure that our Greenbelt Police Department has the resources it needs to stay strong, responsive and community-oriented. Public safety is a shared effort and I will continue urging the county to return the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad to full staffing levels, ensuring our residents receive the protection and emergency response they deserve.

If you can support Silke's campaign, donations can be sent to cash.app at silkepope@outlook.com

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CEMETERY PLOTS – Two together in Fort Lincoln Garden of Remembrance. $2500 each; both $4000. Call or message Barbara, 301-938-7308.

NOTICE

NO KINGS RALLY – Saturday, October 18, 2-4 pm at the Greenbelt Municipal Building in Roosevelt Center. Gather at 2 and march to the Spellman overpass by 2:30. Trump thinks his rule is absolute, but in America, we don't have kings, and we won't back down against chaos, corruption, and cruelty.

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CUSTOM FLOORING, LLC – Installing all flooring products. Specializing in refinishing hardwood. Starting $3.50 per sq. ft. Call Now 301-844-8897, www.customflooringllc.net.

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INDOOR YARD SALE – 10/18/25, Emanuel U.M.C., 11416 Cedar Lane, Beltsville. 10am-2pm. Benefits United Women of Faith/ Beltsville Community Cats "Kittenpalooza."

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RATES

CLASSIFIED: $4.00 minimum for 15 words. $1 for each 1-5 additional words. Submit ad with payment to the News Review office by 6 p.m. Tuesday, or to the News Review drop box in the Co-op grocery store before 5 p.m. Tuesday, or mail to 15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

BOXED: $11.50/column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches ($17.25). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads. Certs and Notarizations each $10.

NEEDED: Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.

DROP ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the Community Center (side closest to Roosevelt Center and the Municipal Building).

ZELLE: The News Review is now accepting electronic payments through Zelle. Find out more at zellepay.com. Customers should direct their payments to business@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

AD DESK: 301-474-4131 or ads@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

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Sports

Raiders Navigate Eagles, Elements En route to Senior Night Victory

by Patrick Gleason

PHOTO BY ETHAN JAMES

Junior Claire Alolga celebrates with Ariana Cruz after a successful penalty kick conversion on October 9.

While the intensifying mist heightened a chill reminiscent of late autumn, the High Point Eagles appeared poised to spoil the Eleanor Roosevelt girls soccer Senior Night celebration. As the first half carried on, the Raiders not only hadn't scored, but had conceded two near Eagle goals on a night unbefitting of a celebration at that point. But sophomore Emery Gregory infused her team with energy heading into the break; after the Raiders ran a short corner kick play, the fullback ripped a shot from the edge of the 18-yard box toward the near post. The 1-0 lead eased the evening's dampness.

And in the second half, senior Autumn Freeman was more ubiquitous than the precipitation. Less than 20 seconds in, she had infiltrated the High Point defense and found the back of the net. Within five minutes of the second half, the Raiders had scored two more goals and pushed their lead to 4-0, with Freeman scoring again, followed by classmate Sofia Zuniga. Later, junior Ariana Cruz added another Raider tally – following her impressive hat trick performance against DuVal on October 9 – before forward Karina Reyes Carranza assisted Freeman for yet another goal, securing her third hat trick of the season. And as the Raiders dominated possession for the remainder of the game, securing keepers Zeala Tantoh and Lien Gareri a combined clean sheet, Freeman added the icing for the ensuing Senior Night celebration. With less than five minutes remaining, Freeman looked up in space 25 yards from goal and didn't hesitate. Her lofted shot rose through the luminous rainfall before dropping under the crossbar with little room to spare.

Junior Varsity

The junior varsity squad started the evening with a 6-0 triumph over High Point. Freshman Ayanna Steele started the scoring for the Raiders by touching a ball past the Eagle keeper before adding a finishing touch to the back of the net. However, it was junior Joyce Kengne who scored the goal of the afternoon by using her chest to redirect a Raider corner into the back of the net. Roosevelt never looked back in a dominant victory that started the celebratory evening for the 10-member varsity senior class. The Raiders acknowledged the contributions of seniors Zeala Tantoh, Iris Gaycken, Addison Green, Karina Reyes Carranza, Yadira Reyes Carranza, Leilah Eggleston, Claudia van der Have, Sofia Zuniga, Esther Obisesan and Autumn Freeman. And with the two victories notched, the rain fittingly ended at the conclusion of the varsity game, commencing a celebratory atmosphere despite the efforts of the Eagles and the elements.

ERHS Music Department Fall Fruit Fundraiser

The Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) Music Department is having its Fall Fruit Fundraiser, selling boxes of a wide variety of citrus fruits along with pears and apples. The proceeds go to support ERHS music students. Orders will be accepted through Sunday, November 2.

The scheduled delivery date to Roosevelt High School is November 30 (check for updates the week of). To see the order list go to freshfruitorder.org/ERHSMusic. For more details about ordering fruit, see their ad in this week's paper or in the October 30 issue.

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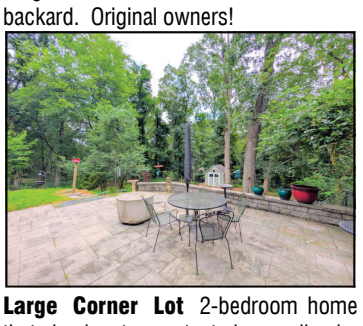
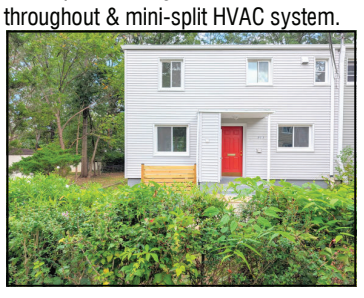
One-level living - **no stairs!** GHI one bedroom home on large, fenced corner lot. Remodeled, opened kitchen with breakfast bar. Separate laundry room.

Boxwood Village - 5 BR, 2 1/2 BA with 4 levels [illegible] SOLD space! Large covered deck overlooks fenced backard. Original owners!



Large Corner Lot 2-bedroom home that backs to protected woodlands. Stone patio & large shed. Remodeled throughout & mini-split HVAC system.



3-br on large corner lot, garage available. Completely remodeled throughout.

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Greenbelt's Fall Fest Offers Fun Activities — and Pumpkins

by Nick Hall NH

Greenbelt's Fall Fest took place on Saturday, October 11. More than 100 people showed up at Schrom Hills Park to participate in the various activities. There were face painting, cornhole, boom lift rides, badminton, inflatable bubble ball racing, a food truck and several information and game booths.

Goodies and fliers were handed out by many organizations, including the Greenbelt Chess Club, Greenbelt Book Club and various youth clubs. There were poetry, voting information, athletic trophies and live music. A steady stream of people played each other in chess, including the mayor and several city council candidates. The hayride seemed popular as well, since there was nearly always a line.

The main event of the day, however, was the pumpkin carving for the upcoming Pumpkin Walks. The Greenbelt Forest Preserve has hosted the Greenbelt Pumpkin Festival since 1988 "as a way to get Greenbelters out into the North Woods and build appreciation for this wonderful local resource." Festival organizers received help in the form of both donations and volunteers who helped transport a truckload of pumpkins from the Greenbelt Co-op to Schrom Hills Park. Thanks to their help, visitors were able to start cutting, gutting and carving the stack of pumpkins. The Schrom Hills Pumpkin Walk was later that day.

If you missed it, you will have a few more chances to participate in the Greenbelt Pumpkin Festival events. There will be carving on Friday, October 17, at Roosevelt Center with a Pumpkin Walk through the Forest Preserve on Saturday, October 18, as well as a final carving and Trunk or Treat behind Beltway Plaza on Friday, October 24.

A row of people play chess side by side.

- Photos by Nick Hall NH

A child with face paint dresses up next to pumpkin plushies.

A child gets out of an inflatable ball after his race.

City employees give out information about the upcoming city council election. Remember to vote on November 4!

Public Works employee Robert Tripe waits for visitors to board the trailer of hay so he can drive the tractor around the park.

2025 Pumpkin Festival Under Way; Two Weekends Remain

by Stacy Stewart

The Greenbelt Pumpkin Festival is a delightful tradition made possible by the generosity and participation of Greenbelters. It is funded entirely by donations and run by volunteers. This year's first event was part of the city's Fall Fest at Schrom Hills Park on Saturday, October 11. Carving tools, candles and 150 pumpkins were provided for participants to carve into jack-o-lanterns, which were then placed on the center path in the park for a glowing Pumpkin Walk that evening.

The Old Greenbelt Pumpkin Walk is a tradition that began in 1988 as part of a larger effort to preserve the North Woods from development. In 2018, the festival was expanded to include events in Greenbelt East and Greenbelt West.

There are two more weekends of pumpkin events to come: carving in Roosevelt Center from 4 to 8:30 p.m. on Friday, October 17; a pumpkin walk in the North Woods (corner of Ridge and Northway) on Saturday, October 18 from 6 to 9 p.m.; and carving at Trunk or Treat behind Beltway Plaza on Friday, October 24 from 5 to 7 p.m. For more details about the events or information on how to support the Pumpkin Festival by volunteering or donating, Facebook members can check out facebook.com/GreenbeltPumpkinFestival.

Stacy Stewart is the coordinator of the Greenbelt Pumpkin Festival.

Pumpkin carving gets messy.

Barb and Mike play live music.

The trailer is full, so the hayride is about to set out.